

60,137-026

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior listings.

1. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) A valve assembly for a mix head assembly of a molding system comprising:

- a mix head comprising an inlet to a mixer section and an outlet from said mixer section;
- an input port to a passage;
- a plurality of sequentially activatable valves communicating with said passage to selectively suppress a flow of fluid through said passage; and
- an output port from said passage to said mix head.

2. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 1, further including a controller to sequentially activate said plurality of sequentially activatable valves to meter an initial flow of the fluid.

3. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 2, wherein said controller activates each of said plurality of sequentially activatable valves in response to a predetermined pressure.

4. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of sequentially activatable valves include a spring bias.

5. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of sequentially activatable valves include a spring bias toward an open position.

6. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 1, further including a pneumatic actuator to selectively activate each of said plurality of sequentially activatable valves.

7. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of sequentially activatable valves define a longitudinal axis, each of said plurality of sequentially

60,137-026

activatable valves providing an opening transverse to the longitudinal axis and alignable with said passage.

8. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said plurality of sequentially activatable valves includes a first valve, a second valve and a third valve, each of said valves defining a longitudinal axis substantially transverse to said passage.

9. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 8, wherein said first valve is adjacent said input port.

10. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 8, wherein said first valve includes a first aperture, said second valve includes a second aperture, and said third valve includes a third aperture.

11. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein said second aperture sized to be larger than said first aperture and said third aperture sized to be larger than said second aperture.

12. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein said plurality of sequentially activatable valves provide an open position wherein said first aperture is aligned with said passage and said second aperture and said third aperture are partially aligned with said passage.

13. (CANCELED)

14. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein said plurality of sequentially activatable valves provide an open position wherein said first aperture is aligned with said passage, said second aperture is aligned with said passage and said third aperture is partially aligned with said passage.

60,137-026

15. (CANCELED).

16. (ORIGINAL) The assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein said plurality of sequentially activatable valves provide an open position wherein said first aperture, second aperture and said third aperture are aligned with said passage.

17. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) A molding system comprising:
a mix head comprising an inlet to a mixer section and an outlet from said mixer section;
an input port to a passage, said input port communicating with a feed assembly;
a plurality of sequentially activatable valves each defining a longitudinal axis, each of said plurality of sequentially activatable valves include an opening transverse to the longitudinal axis and alignable with said passage to selectively suppress a flow of fluid through said passage;
a bias adjacent each of said plurality of sequentially activatable valves to bias said valve toward an open position;
an actuator to selectively activate each of said plurality of sequentially activatable valves; and
an output port from said passage, said output port communicating with said mix head.

18. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 17, further including a controller to sequentially activate said plurality of sequentially activatable valves to meter an initial flow of the fluid.

19. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 18, wherein said controller activates each of said plurality of sequentially activatable valves in response to a predetermined pressure.

60,137-026

20. (CANCELED).

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 20 18, wherein said first valve includes a first aperture, said second valve includes a second aperture, and said third valve includes a third aperture.

22. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 21, wherein said second aperture sized to be larger than said first aperture and said third aperture sized to be larger than said second aperture.

26. (PREVIOUSLY ADDED) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said plurality of sequentially activatable valves are located within a valve housing mounted adjacent said mix section.

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 26, further comprising a plurality of said valve housings mounted about a circumference of said mix head, each of said ~~plurality of said valve housings valve assemblies~~ communicating a fluid material to said mix section.

28. (PREVIOUSLY ADDED) The system as recited in claim 17, wherein said plurality of sequentially activatable valves are located within a valve housing mounted adjacent said mix section.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 28, further comprising a plurality of said ~~valve housings valve assemblies~~ mounted about a circumference of said mix head, each of said valve assemblies communicating a fluid material to said mix section.

30. (PREVIOUSLY ADDED) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said plurality of sequentially activatable valves intersect said passage in a substantially perpendicular orientation.

60,137-026

31. (PREVIOUSLY ADDED) The system as recited in claim 17, wherein said plurality of sequentially activatable valves intersect said passage in a substantially perpendicular orientation.